North Central Regional Transit District
Board Meeting
Friday, February 6, 2015
Jim West Regional Transit Center
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the North Central Regional Transit District Board was called to order on the above date by Mayor Daniel Barrone, Chair, at 9:13 a.m. at the Jim West Regional Transit Center, 1327 Riverside Drive, Española, New Mexico.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Moment of Silence**
3. **Roll Call**

Ms. Lucero called the roll and it indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:	**Elected Members**	**Alternate Designees**
Los Alamos County	*Councilor Pete Sheehey*	
Rio Arriba County		*Mr. Tomás Campos*
Taos County	*Commissioner Jim Fambro*	
Santa Fé County	*Commissioner Miguel Chávez*	
Nambé Pueblo	*Mr. Lonnie Montoya*	
Pojoaque Pueblo	Absent	
Ohkay Owingeh	Absent	
San Ildefonso Pueblo		*Ms. Lillian Garcia*

Santa Clara Pueblo		*Ms. Mary Lou Valério*
Tesuque Pueblo	*Gov. Charles Dorame*	*Ms. Sandra Maes*
City of Santa Fé		*Mr. Jon Bulthuis*
City of Española	*Councilor John Hernandez*	
Town of Edgewood	*Councilor Chuck Ring*	
Town of Taos	*Mayor Daniel Barrone*	
Rio Metro (ex officio)	*Ms. Elizabeth Carter*	

Staff Members Present
Mr. Anthony J. Mortillaro, Executive Director
Ms. Dalene Lucero, Executive Assistant
Mr. Michael Kelly, Transit Operations Manager
Ms. Stacey McGuire, Projects and Grants Specialist
Mr. Jim Nagle, Public Information Officer
Ms. Pat López, Acting Finance Director
Mr. Gary Guinn, Fleet and Facilities Maintenance Manager
Ms. Kathy Diaz, Transit Driver I
Ms. Mary Pacheco, Transit Driver II
Mr. Roger Weahkee, Transit Driver I

Others Present
Mr. Peter Dwyer, Legal Counsel
Mr. Carl Boaz, Stenographer
Mr. Ardee Napolitano, Rio Grande Sun
Ms. Lisa Katonak, Santa Fe County Manager's Office
Mr. Robert Griego, Santa Fe County Planning Manager
Ms. Delilah Garcia, NMDOT
Ms. Lucia Sanchez, Rio Arriba County
Mr. Erick Aune, Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization
Mr. David Harris, NMDOT
Ms. Francine Suazo, Rio Arriba County
Ms. Tessa Jo Mascareñas, Santa Fe County
Mr. Dominic Montoya, Rio Metro Regional Transit District

4. INTRODUCTIONS

Everyone present introduced themselves to the Board and public.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gov. Dorame requested a change in the agenda to move up the review of Ski Santa Fe as today is Indian Day at the legislature.

Chair Barrone said it would be moved to become item C under Presentations.

Commissioner Chávez moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Bulthuis seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Nambé Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fé County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Taos County, Town of Taos and Tesuque Pueblo voting in the affirmative and none voting against.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 9, 2015

Commissioner Chávez moved to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2015 Board meeting as presented. Councilor Sheehey noted on page 4 - response to audit report, that all entities using PERA would have this new federal GASB accounting requirement to show all retirement liabilities. These new liabilities will show up and when the new liabilities show up, we can say we all have this liability but our houses are in order. He seconded the motion as amended and it passed with unanimous roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Nambé Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fé County, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Taos County, Town of Taos and Tesuque Pueblo voting in the affirmative and none voting against.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no speakers from the public.

PRESENTATION ITEMS

A. Presentation of Employee Anniversaries

Chair Barrone presented Ms. Kathy Diaz, Ms. Mary Pacheco, and Mr. Roger Weahkee with Five Year Service Award certificates and Mr. Mortillaro presented gifts to them. The recipients thanked the Board for the recognition.

B. Presentation and Review of Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transit Master Plan

Mr. Mortillaro announced that the Santa Fé MPO is updating the transit Master Plan which covers a prescribed area including some of the NCRTD routes. He asked Mr. Erick Aune to present it.

Mr. Aune showed a Power Point Presentation to the Board. They determined a scope of work and through an RFP, contracted with KFH Group for the update work. He shared some highlights with a list of key themes and spoke of the first 5. He said the RTD is also undergoing a long-range plan right now and that will help support the vision down the road. He displayed a map showing current services and overall performance with about 2 million trips. With this plan, they could look out 20 years and see how the transit system helped develop the transit services in 20 years. The MPO will try to open doors with this plan to optimize services not only from a transit perspective but from roadways, pedestrians and the rail corridor.

Next steps are to look at the bus stop inventory. Within the area are 500 bus stops and will look at them from a data collection point of view and evaluate the condition of the stops in light of ADA and within ¼ mile of what feeds into the stops and the surrounding land uses to allow the stop to perform well. The Board heard about that last month from the consultants and how the interface can be changed to increase ridership. It uses a GIS mapping system as a powerful tool for all providers.

Councilor Sheehey asked if the SFMPO committed to participate in ITS like LA Transit and RTD are doing.

Mr. Aune said that within the context of this plan it recognizes those technical investments and how it can be incorporated into one-stop shop down the road and figure out how it would be coordinated. It will be through the lens of the rider.

C. Ski Santa Fe Service Update.

Mr. Mortillaro reported that on January 13, the Santa Fé Board of County Commissioners discussed Ski Santa Fé and he provided an update to them. Gov. Dorame was there too. Mr. Mortillaro reported on the current status. Funding needs to be allocated from stakeholders and also need to meet with Tesuque and Nambé in separate meeting and possible solutions to their concerns. We are working to schedule it. An article in Santa Fé Reporter about the meeting was published.

The City Council of Santa Fé has not yet discussed this with policy members their involvement and commitment to it.

Gov. Dorame said this is not an easy issue to talk about because the tribes mentioned are held to confidentiality about sacred sites. He said, "When we visit these sites we conduct ceremonies that are closed to the public. When a ski basin blocks our access to the sites it makes it hard to practice our religious beliefs."

Ms. Valério arrived at 9:40 a.m.

Gov. Dorame said their tendency is to protect it. If you have a church and attend services on a Sunday and the following Sunday, an obstacle blocks your way you could go home and say that is a relief but it prevents you from practice of your belief. Lots of people like to go to places of solitude or to fish or hunt but the Pueblo people go there because it is a tranquil place. With the Ski Basin - it also interferes with other people than tribes who might find other places but not so with the tribe. We can't move the sacred places because they have been there for time immemorial.

"We've fought the ski basin since 1989 and passed a resolution and took it to the County. The County has jurisdiction to the timberline I think and we ended up in court. The court didn't think the religious beliefs argument had weight and more of a money thing.

He said he had no objection to people recreating and their Council was not here to condemn the ski basin or stopping people from skiing. We want to stop expansion period. There are plenty of ski areas if Santa Fé Ski Area becomes overcrowded. They also have an obstacle with the USFS who issued the permit for the ski basin. It seems they are involved in economic development. The only voice we have is the voice of the public to say why we object to having more people go to the ski area. It is only a periodic time that the ski basin will be used throughout the year. There is also the area between our boundary and Tesuque Village and the Rancho Encantado area and Chupadero. We are concerned about our water shed which is located at the Ski Basin. He asked how they could protect that. Tesuque is conducting meetings with other entities to figure out how to protect our forests. As more and more people go up there, the fire chances increase. By providing more services, we feel it will create a larger problem. The Catch 22 is that Tesuque has a casino and we hope people who come to ski will also come to the casino. But right now, the progress and growth of Santa Fé is growing by leaps and bounds. He was happy to say the Pueblo is allowed to voice concerns at the BCC. Progress and growth are hard to stop. So Tesuque depends on our commissioners to deal with that.

He once hunted that whole area. The expansion now is on Raven's Ridge which we refer to as Horsehead which is a little closer to the city. Raven's Ridge is the butt of the horse and now it has a scar from the ski trail. Camera pictures are taken from a place that hides the scarring. The Pueblo doesn't want any more scars on the mountain.

Commissioner Chávez remembered the six acre parking lot and expansion. He said it was hard to influence changes to the lease and it is unfortunate. He thought they had recognize it as part of the RTD project plan. But if it is going to cause problems then as a group we need to consider eliminating that part for the master plan. We can't stop growth but maybe manage it better. He hoped this would have allowed the tribe to provide public awareness of the sacred spaces and help visitors treat it with respect.

He asked if the Board wanted it as part of the service plan or not. If we didn't, they could put it aside and stop bringing it up. He was willing to support the pueblos but also trying to find a

way to get funding in place so it wouldn't be just the RTD.

The Santa Fe Reporter talked about the responsibility for cost sharing and the cultural aspects and where it all fits in. It is good to have this discussion. He was in no rush to make it happen but it has to be done with all equity in mind - financial, cultural sensitivity, etc.

Mr. Mortillaro explained that in the 5-year plan, access to ski areas is not just for Ski Santa Fé and is considered a premium service that has a funding source and doesn't take place over other routes for commuting and access to other life needs like education and medical. It is not the overriding focus of the service plan. But Mr. Campos brings up a good question and it needs to be resolved. It is on here because we are reporting to the Board but it needs to be brought to some conclusion and the Board needs to indicate if work should be continued or set it aside.

Governor Dorame agreed that it is not an easy task but rest assured that if the Board decides to go forward with it, it won't hinder the Tesuque tribe's ability to voice their concerns.

Commissioner Chávez said that he could call on that discussion on any day. He was willing to be with Gov. Dorame on it, even if we have to go to Washington DC. That may be where we get their attention.

Mr. Campos said he saw no clear champion for this on the Board and there are many other things for Mr. Mortillaro and Ms. McGuire to do. Until someone comes to the table with money, they were wasting time on this.

Mr. Mortillaro agreed it needs to come to a head within the next month or two.

Commissioner Chávez said this was his last ditch effort to get a funding commitment in place and if it doesn't happen, he would be pulling out. But the discussions with the pueblo need to continue.

Mr. Bulthuis said Councilor Bushee couldn't be here today so he would make sure she gets a record of the discussion. The decision of the City Manager and Finance Director is no increase in funding for this project but we could seek for a reallocation of funds for that purpose. There is no resolution in process but he would communicate to her that the clock is ticking.

Gov. Dorame added that although Tesuque and Nambé are the only tribes mentioned, there is a lot of confidentiality that affects the other tribes as well. Before they were put on reservations, they had the whole southwest and now had to deal with being on the reservation and not having access to other sacred sites. They still have to do pilgrimages, collect plants for medicine, and evergreens for dancing. The recent fires mean they have to go father for those things. It is bigger than we realize and affects everybody. If you want to go to the mountains to show your children a deer, you won't find a deer but only other people.

At the roundhouse, Governor Dorame lobbies for his tribe. There is a bill in process to transfer federal lands into state hands. That will affect hunting, water rights, cultural sites,

acequias - all that the tribes hold dear. And the next thing is that the state will have a for sale sign on that land because they need the money.

Chair Barrone asked for a link to that bill because it would affect counties also.

Gov. Dorame said they also have a bill that affects counties. It is putting counties on notice that if they are not actively seeking extraction of mineral rights they should not receive any general appropriations from the state. That is the first shot across the bow. He found it amusing but they are serious.

Chair Barrone asked that this be on the April meeting agenda to get closure on Ski Santa Fé. Mr. Mortillaro agreed.

Gov. Dorame asked to be excused to be replaced by Ms. Maes.

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL / DISCUSSION

C. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution No. 2015-05 Authorizing a Budget Amendment to Increase the FY2015 Budget from the 5309 State of Good Repair Federal Funding, Cash Reserves and Unexpended State Capital Outlay Funds

Mr. López said at the January Board meeting, the Board approved a resolution accepting 5309 funds from NMDOT. They had a resolution requesting to increase the budget. Part of the revenue stream is 5309 $202,460 and a match of $50,437 and unexpended funds of $9.312 that would be used to purchase two buses.

Mr. Bulthuis moved to approve Resolution 2015-05 authorizing the budget increase for bus purchases. Councilor Ring seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Nambé Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fé County, Santa Clara Pueblo, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Taos County, Town of Taos and Tesuque Pueblo voting in the affirmative and none voting against.

D. Discussion and Consideration of FY 2015 Capital Bus Procurement

Mr. Mortillaro introduced Mr. Gary Guinn who joined the staff on December 8.

Mr. Guinn said the request was to spend money for a 20 passenger, 36 passenger and 14 passenger vehicles. He briefly described them and gave the prices of each bus. They have auto snow chains and the 14 passenger would have ADA stop requests.

Mr. Bulthuis noted that GPS tracking was not listed in the add-ons.

Mr. Guinn said that would be done after delivery. He added that all are on state contract.

Mr. Bulthuis moved to approve the spending request. Commissioner Chávez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Nambé Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fé County, Santa Clara Pueblo, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Taos County, Town of Taos and Tesuque Pueblo voting in the affirmative and none voting against.

E. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution No. 2015-06 Disposal and Auction of Obsolete Fleet and Miscellaneous District Property

Mr. Kelly said this was an annual event to dispose of obsolete items. The disposal committee makes recommendations and met this morning and approved recommendations.

Of those to be disposed, one minivan will be on public surplus for added revenue for the district.

There were no questions.

Chair Barrone moved to adopt the resolution 2015-06 for property disposal. Commissioner Chávez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Nambé Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fé County, Santa Clara Pueblo, Taos County, Town of Taos and Tesuque Pueblo voting in the affirmative and none voting against. San Ildefonso Pueblo was out of the room when the vote was taken.

F. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution No. 2015-07 Donation of 2 Obsolete Buses to Taos County Senior Program

Mr. Kelly reported the request from the Taos BCC for two buses for their senior program. Last July they took over the Ancianos program. The RTD actually had three minivans. The 12 passenger and the 8 passenger vans could be donated to another public entity so they were set those aside and per this request, could donate them to the Taos County Senior Program.

Mr. Jim Fambro said this is a new department for Taos County. They took it on from a nonprofit. The town owns the building. The service is on the upswing and more people using it but it doesn't have the outreach needed.

Councilor Ring moved to approve Resolution 2015-07. Councilor Sheehey seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Nambé Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fé County, Santa Clara Pueblo, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Taos County, Town of Taos and Tesuque Pueblo voting in the affirmative and none voting against.

Mr. Mortillaro said if others needed a donated vehicle he can put that on their list.

G. Discussion and Review of the North Central Regional Transit District FY 2015 Mid-Year Financial summary Report

Mr. Mortillaro said they were at the six month point and presented this report to the Finance Committee last month and the Committee asked that the same report be made to the Board today.

Mr. Lopez reviewed the report which was in the packet starting on page 33.

At the conclusion of his report there were no questions asked.

Commissioner Chávez moved to accept or endorse the midyear budget report as presented. Mr. Montoya seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous roll call vote with Town of Edgewood, Los Alamos County, Nambé Pueblo, Rio Arriba County, City of Santa Fe, Santa Fé County, Santa Clara Pueblo, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Taos County, Town of Taos and Tesuque Pueblo voting in the affirmative and none voting against.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

H. Discussion and Review of the Draft North Central Regional Transit District Social Media Policy and Resolution 2015-04

Mr. Mortillaro said the RTD will utilize this for ridership and constituents on a variety of social media and needed to have a policy in place to manage that. So staff drafted a social media policy today for discussion and next month for adoption.

Mr. Nagle explained the proposed policy to the Board and then Mr. Dwyer described the legal aspects.

Mr. Nagle said this was not breaking new ground here. Most member entities have a social media policy in place. It has become standard for Transit. They can start promoting our services to a whole new audience and is a good way to increase ridership.

He listed what information would be provided through social media and shared an example. He displayed Facebook pages of member transit providers and pointed out the prohibitions or other censoring of public input.

Mr. Dwyer commented on how to prevent inaccurate or untrue information and how to deal with monitoring the site in compliance with Freedom of Speech provisions. He admitted to be on the conservative side and said the government is slow to go to paperless formats.

Councilor Sheehey said Los Alamos County uses a format called Open Forum that maintains much control over the input. The non-comment Facebook page also works well.

Ms. Carter said lots of agencies have to change marketing strategies to get to people.

Mr. Nagle said the biggest increase of ridership comes through social media from young people. Some have a delay getting licenses or cars and use public transportation services instead.

Mr. Montoya asked if they were going to all these social media or just Facebook.

Mr. Nagle said they would use Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Even on our own website, we can post those videos but they play back through YouTube.

Mr. Montoya thought they should follow Los Alamos County's policy.

Councilor Ring said he has used most of social media and would like to see the District go forward with it, understanding they needed to pay attention as they went. It doesn't have to be perfect but just gives the public the information they need and help improve our performance.

Commissioner Chávez urged staff to continue working on those various formats.

Ms. Maes was concerned about how long it would take to get rid of a bad input. She thought Facebook was a great way to follow what is going on.

Mr. Nagle said the policy would provide for respect for cultural sensitivity and confidentiality.

Mr. Dwyer cautioned that for communications of members with RTD, they needed to stick with written formal communications or single emails rather than other social media because it becomes a public record.

Mr. Mortillaro thanked the Board for their input. He would bring this back later for action.

I. Discussion and Review of Ski Santa Fe Service - Update

This was moved earlier in the agenda.

J. Financial Report for January 2015

Mr. Lopez covered this in his report.

K. Finance Subcommittee Report

Mr. Vigil was not present.

Mr. Mortillaro said at the last meeting the Subcommittee talked about the mid-year report.

L. Tribal Subcommittee Report

Mr. Montoya said their meeting was canceled but they will have another one soon to look at route upgrades and how to implement them.

M. Executive Report for January 2015 and Comments from the Executive Director

Mr. Mortillaro said his report was in the packet.

He passed out information on the public meeting for the long range plan and encouraged others to attend as well.

He mentioned the vehicle parked in front that kind of looks like a London Taxi and invited members to examine it after the meeting.

Lastly was a report on HB 92.

Mr. Bulthuis said HB 92 is a legislative initiative of the State Association to seek new sources of funding. They are still working on the language to reflect all parties who are eligible for funding. He encouraged all members of this Board and other relationships to speak in support as it moves through committee hearings.

Mr. Mortillaro added that it isn't just a transit bill - 95% goes for transportation, roads, etc. They already nixed the gas tax increase. Another roadway bill - we need to deal with our infrastructure to help us.

Mr. Bulthuis addressed the Transportation Association meeting in January. He understood the Governor was backing it as a 3-year bill instead of a 5 year bill.

Ms. Carter said Rio Metro has given out over 2,000 VA free passes. They are getting 20-50 /week. Also, Rio Metro will be featured in next month's Mass Transit magazine.

Councilor Ring asked about the Rail Runner deficit.

Ms. Carter didn't know but said they were positive on the bus side and moved some of that to rail.

Mr. Bulthuis extended an invitation to the SW TA in Santa Fe on March 1-4 and said heavy hitters would be attending. He would provide no-cost passes to those who want to attend.

Mr. Kelly provided the performance reports. They are tracking flat for the six months. RTD

routes are slightly down or flat for the year. He reviewed the performance measures from the packet.

There were no accidents during that time period.

MATTERS FROM THE BOARD

Ms. McGuire is working on a transition plan with Wilson & Co and one thing that came up was to reach out to municipalities, counties, pueblos to come together on ADA plans. She will be reaching out in the next few weeks to see who has an ADA plan in place to factor in placement of bus stops.

MISCELLANEOUS

Councilor Ring introduced the new Administrator in Edgewood who was present.

ADJOURN

Next Board Meeting: March 6, 2015

Commissioner Chávez moved to adjourn the meeting. /Councilor Ring seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Approved by:

Daniel R. Barrone, Chair

Attest:

Dennis Tim Salazar, Secretary

Submitted by:

Carl Boaz for Carl G. Boaz, Inc.